

NOVEL ANTIBODIES AND LIGANDS FOR "BONZO"
CHEMOKINE RECEPTOR

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The invention relates to an antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof which
5 binds to the CXC chemokine receptor Bonzo (also referred to as STRL33, TYMSTR
and HBMBU14) and blocks the binding of a ligand (e.g., SExCkine (also referred to as
chemokine alpha-5) to the receptor. The invention also relates to a method of
identifying agents (molecules, compounds) which can bind to Bonzo and inhibit the
binding of a ligand (e.g., SExCkine) and/or modulate a function of Bonzo. The
10 invention relates to an antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof which binds to the
CXC chemokine SExCkine (also referred to as chemokine alpha-5) and inhibit binding
of SExCkine to receptor (e.g., Bonzo). The invention also relates to targeting molecules
which contain a first binding moiety which binds to mammalian Bonzo and a second
binding moiety which binds to a molecule expressed on the surface of a target cell. The
15 invention also relates to a method of promoting and/or effectuating the interaction of a
Bonzo⁺ cell and a target cell. The invention further relates to a method of modulating a
function of Bonzo, and to the use of the antibodies, antigen-binding fragments, targeting
molecules and agents identified by the method of the invention in research, therapeutic,
prophylactic and diagnostic methods.

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